

Extension history

Horizons brings hope to Minnesota communities

Extension's Horizons program helps small communities with high poverty rates to develop their own leaders and create a thriving community. St. James is one of nine Minnesota communities to complete the program in 2008. With a boost from Extension and the Northwest Area Foundation, St. James factory workers, high-school students, business people, educators and civic leaders together shaped an exciting new future for their town.

The secret to success is a "grass roots, not top-down"? approach and getting together everyone in the community to solve their own issues. Since beginning in 2003, Horizons has worked with 21 Minnesota communities. Fifteen additional communities began Horizons programs in 2008.

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